Minutes

Western Region Youth Council Meeting

30 January 2003 Beaver, Utah

Attendance: Lynnette Robinson Sue Kimball Wayne Shamo

Brad Neufeld Rich VanAusdal Regan Wilson Greg Muller Evelyn Black Carl Holmes

Guest: Richard Nelson

Staff: Fran Cannard Ann Barnson Jolene Bundy

Minutes: Jolene Bundy

Welcome

Ann Barnson welcomed everyone to the meeting. Greg Muller was not there yet so she would start and hope he soon comes. There are items we need to be thinking about. First, we need a Chairperson Elect for the council. A Quorum consists of 1/3 of the membership. It was determined we have a quorum. Be thinking of someone to elect.

Minutes

The minutes for the last meeting on October 11, 2002 were presented.

Before being approved Ann went through the list of Action Items.

• Carl Holmes made a motion to approve the minutes. Brad Neufeld seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved.

Items Discussed:

- Lis got copies of the Resurce Book to Jolene and they have been distributed.
- Jolene got a copy of the Resources out to everyone.
- Ann is ready to discuss the Priority Rating System.
- Richard said he and Greg have talked but not done much toward resource mapping.
- Sue said there is a new resource telephone line in Washington County. It is like the 911 phone number only it is 211. It is manned by the Washington County Volunteer Center. They have a list of resources where services can be obtained.
- Richard will call Linda Sappington to be sure our resources are listed there.
- Fran asked if we were giving out our web site information.
- Sue mentioned the Washington County Human Services Council for resources and also suggested Winfield Kids should contact Mary Light at the Center for Independence.
- Fran said DWS will soon have a Resource page On-Line. It is designed to replace the eligibility system and is called "eReP". Wayne asked if they qualified them. Fran said no, it will have target questions to help identify what resources they need and tell them

- where to go. The Web page will allow you to put in your information. Ann said she will send the information to Jolene to get out to the council.
- The way it will probably work is agencies will put in their own information on-line and they will be responsible for it. You can each get word out to your own agencies about the "eReP" program.
- Greg suggested using volunteers to see that the agencies keep their information updated. Fran said they would include an email address link to contact that agency incase the information has changed.

Mission Statement and Goals

Greg said he wanted to review the Mission Statement and Goals at the beginning of each meeting and ask Jolene to bring copies of it each time.

Grant Writing

Greg would like to establish a Task Force Committee on Grant Writing, to develop grant writing support and encourage agencies, schools, and non-prophet organizations to do grant writing for the help and support of the youth of the region.

- Greg and Brian Olmstead are writing a grant now for Piute, Juab, and North Sanpete tor technology resources. Brian has contacted other schools to let them know support is available.
- Greg is doing a presentation on how to look for and get grants. This is his *Grant Support Initiative*. He hopes to put it on the Web to make the information available.
- Greg said he hopes to have it on the "web" by our next meeting in April. Once he gets it done, it will be up and running quickly. He got information from Texas to help him.
- Carl said Snow College South still has classes available for and has trained numerous people in writing grants. There are 3 or 4 trained in Grant Management. Mont Turner is one that is trained. You can call Patsy Daniels, Carl's secretary, to get a list of names. He doesn't know if they will do it for free or not.
- Brian Olmstead is also interested in grant writing.
- Greg will send the information by Email to those who can use this grant information.
- Lynette Bujack works for the Southwest ATC and does grant writing.

Membership

We need to elect a Chairperson Elect, which is like a Vice-chair. Carl nominated Lynnette Robinson. Rich seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Ann pointed out that the Chairperson Elect becomes the Chair Person in July 2004 as The Chair term is for 2 years. That is when Greg's term will be up. Greg ask for a vote and Lynnette was elected as the new Chairperson Elect.

• We need new members. We have had several drop out and quit coming. We need to replace those. Richard and Brad was ask to come up with names of parents of youth on the program that can be approached to see if they will be members of the council. Then their names will be brought before the next Region Council for approval.

- Sue suggested Becky Cox. She has strong ties to the schools and does a lot of work with the youth in many areas. She is very dedicated to the youth in trying to help them. Sue will contact Becky to see if she will consider being on the council.
- Carl suggested an Applied Technology person through the Public Schools and suggested Brent Judd be asked to serve. Brent would cover areas of the Technologies that Carl doesn't. Carl will talk to Brent about serving on the council.
- Greg asked Jolene to email the positions that are vacant to the members so they will know who we need.

Priority Rating System

Ann said we are in need of some changes to the priority rating system. She asked Richard Nelson to explain.

- Richard passed out a summary report from Winfield Kids which shows the numbers of youth referred and served and which school they are from. He said the program is going well. However, because WIA requires that 30% of the funding be spent on out-of-school youth, they need to find and help more of those youth. Changing the point system in the priority ratings will help. He passed out a copy of the priority system.
- Ann proposed making 2 changes. She said in the past, the youth programs were mainly the summer youth program, but now that it is year-round we need to have a better system.
- Richard said they spent the first year doing outreach to get into the schools. Now, the programs in the schools are going great and the focus this year is follow-ups and working with the youth that have been referred. They have 161 currently enrolled in WIA. They need more out-of-school youth.
- In the schools, the youth spend 3 days in workshops, then meet with the counselors, get academic reports, develop an action plan team with the school, and then work with each of the youth to keep them progressing. They are over-whelmed with youth that want to be in the program but they don't have the funding for all of them. They need more funding.
- The schools are now willing to talk to them about the drop-outs but we need to change the priority system so we can help more of them. Their goal is to enroll 100 out-of-school youth by June.
- The proposed changes would be to change from 1 point to 2 points the following:
 - o Ages 19-21.
 - o School Drop-outs
- Sue felt the Homeless should be given a higher rating. Most of them are drop-outs or those that do manage to go to school are really struggling and probably will be drop-outs if we can't help them.
- Carl thought the pregnant or parenting also should get an extra point. They too are usually drop-outs or struggling to keep from being a drop-out.
- Sue said there are 414 homeless youth in Washington County. These children are living in terrible conditions. The homeless educators that work with the schools had their work hours cut from 18 hours to 5. Sue has worked with many homeless trying to get them back into school.
- Wayne thought they would want to be in school to get at least one good meal a day.

- Sue said that isn't the way it works. They can't go to school and just struggle to survive. It isn't always their fault. Many are homeless through no fault of their own.
- Richard said they are locating many of these youth through the schools. They are seniors that didn't graduate or know they are going to be getting kicked out of school. They also get many of the youth through the Corrections office.
- Richard met with the State Department of Education in Salt Lake to help with information. They have established a WIN Club which is very effective. It is like a foster family. You can make referrals to Winfield Kids on the internet.
- They can help with other resources also. Some will rotate out of the program leaving openings for more youth.
- A link for Job Corp on our web page was discussed. Regan said she will call and get us their web address so we can add that link to our youth page.
- Lynnette made a motion to make 4 changes to the rating system:
 - o Ages 19-21, School Drop-outs Homeless/runaway
 - o Pregnant or parenting

These would all be raised from 1 point to 2 points.

- Sue seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.
- Carl said they had 2 summer youth employees on campus this past summer. It's the first time they have not had problems with the summer youth in all the years they have been doing this. He is wondering if this is because Winfield Kids has made a noticeable difference in the youth on the program or just a coincidence.
- Richard was asked if they had data that identified the changes in the youth. He said last year they didn't have data but this year they will.
- The contract with Winfield Kids will go until July of 2003. Then DWS can renew their contract for 4 years but will be monitoring each year to make sure they are keeping the terms of the contract. It can also be done on a year to year basis until the RFP process comes up again in 2006.
- The Youth Program in Utah County is connected to the public schools. They are bragging how good it is. We believe we are doing as good or better. We just need the data to show we are doing GREAT.
- Ann said it has been a hard year getting the program started but it is getting better.
 - Richard said one example of this is one school in Washington County (PineView HS) would not let them into the school. This year they saw what has been happening in the other schools and ask them to come in for those in restitution. They can get credit toward graduation for these workshops. PineView would not let them take school time. They could stay after if the parents would let them but they didn't think the parents would do that. They sent letters out to the parents to see how many would let their youth stay after school for the program. They only wanted 20-30 youth for the program. They didn't expect any back so were surprised when they got 60 letters back from parents requesting the program.

Mapping resources

Greg will work with Richard to see what resources the communities feel they need and want.

- In our inner mapping we need to look at individuals and not just agencies by looking at those who have skills, hobbies, etc. that can help the youth gain skills and interests. This needs to start with us.
 - o Example: Greg plays Guitar. He is willing to help others learn to play.
- He asked other members to show how their gifts and talents can be of service to the youth. He asked Richard if he would help him with this. Richard agreed.
- Carl suggested Greg bring his guitar next time.

Other business

Ann has a news letter from the State Youth Council. She thought they would like to read it. It can be found on-line at jobs.utah.gov, and on the Youth Council web page. She said we need to have information from the State meeting each time we meet.

Review of Action Items

- 1. Richard will call Linda Sappington to be sure our resources are listed on the 211 Resource number in Washington County.
- 2. Fran will send information on "eReP" to Jolene to send out to the council.
- 3. Jolene will bring copies of the Mission Statement and Goals to the meeting each time.
- 4. Greg will establish a Task Force Committee on Grant Writing
- 5. Greg will send his presentation information on Grant Writing to the members and those that can use the information.
- 6. Richard and Brad will come up with names of parents of youth to be on our council and let Ann and Greg know.
- 7. Sue will contact Becky Cox so see if she will consider being a member of the council.
- 8. Carl will talk to Brent Judd about serving on the council.
- 9. Jolene will email the positions that are vacant to the members so they will know who we need for members
- 10. Ann will get the name and phone number of the DWS contact person to Regan so she can get Job Corps on the DWS Youth web page.

Greg adjourned the meeting and invited everyone to attend the Lunch and the Region Council meeting at the Garden-of-Eat'n at 12:00 Noon.

Our **next meeting** will be April 24, 2003 in Richfield.